

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-16, 18-29, and 31-39 are pending in the present application.

Applicant notes with appreciation that in section 7 of the Office Action the Examiner indicates that claims 4, 17, and 30 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Rather than rewrite claims 4, 17, and 30, Applicant has incorporated claims 4, 17, and 30 into independent claims 1, 14, and 27, respectively. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 1, 14 and 27 are in condition for allowance.

In sections 5 and 6 of the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-16, 18-29, and 31-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). As mentioned above, claims 1, 14 and 27 are in condition for allowance. Claims 2, 3, and 5-13 depend from claim 1, claims 15, 16 and 18-26 depend from claim 14, and claims 28, 29 and 31-39 depend from claim 27. By virtue of these dependencies, claims 2-3, 5-13, 15-16, 18-26, 28-29, and 31-39 are all also in condition for allowance.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the section 103(a) rejection of claims 1-3, 5-16, 18-29 and 31-39.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims presented in this application patentably distinguish over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration and that this application be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

2-4-05
Date

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